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Commission on Population and Development
Thirty-fourth session
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

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   (a) Report of the intersessional meeting of the Bureau;
   (b) Agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.
4. General debate on national experience in population matters: population, environment and development.
5. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.
6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.
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Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council stipulates that at the commencement of its first meeting of a regular session, the Commission shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen and such other officers as may be required.

At past sessions, the Commission has elected a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure requires that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

On the recommendation of the Commission at its thirty-third session, the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2000/233, approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission.

At its thirtieth session, the Commission decided to authorize its Bureau to hold intersessional meetings in preparation for its sessions on a yearly basis. The Commission has before it the report of the Bureau on its intersessional meeting, held in Nairobi, on 27 and 28 September 2000.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission (E/CN.9/2001/1)

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session (E/CN.9/2001/L.1)

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development on its intersessional meeting (E/CN.9/2001/CRP.1)

3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development

In its resolution 49/128 of 19 December 1994, in which it endorsed the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development, the General Assembly decided that the Commission on Population and Development, as a functional commission assisting the Economic and Social Council, would monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Conference at the national, regional and international levels, and would advise the Council thereon.

In the terms of reference of the Commission,[1] which were endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1995/55, the Commission was called

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 7* (E/1995/27), annex I, sect. I.A.

upon to adopt a topic-oriented and prioritized multi-year work programme, culminating in a quinquennial review and appraisal of the Programme of Action. That work programme, inter alia, will provide a framework for assessing the progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action. In the report of the Commission on its twenty-eighth session, which the Economic and Social Council took note of in its decision 1995/236, the Commission called for the preparation of annual reports on a selected topic of the Programme of Action.[2] In its decision 1999/1, as reaffirmed in decision 2000/1, the Commission decided that the topic for 2001 would be "Population, environment and development".

In its resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, in which it endorsed the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, the General Assembly recommended that all relevant bodies and entities of the United Nations system should continue to clarify, within existing mechanisms, their specific leadership roles and responsibilities and continue to strengthen their efforts to promote system-wide coordination and collaboration, especially at the country level. It also noted that the intergovernmental work of the Commission on Population and Development should be reinforced.

In its agreed conclusions 2000/2, the Economic and Social Council invited its functional commissions to consider possible options for enhancing the reviews of the major United Nations conferences and summits and inform the Council for its consideration at its substantive session in 2001 of the outcome of their discussion. The Council is of the view that a number of options, inter alia, those listed in paragraph 33 of the report of the Secretary-General,[3] could be considered for ensuring an effective and comprehensive review at the intergovernmental level of major United Nations conferences and summits. Particular attention should be given to the periodicity of conference reviews. The Council also indicated that the functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies should, at an early stage, identify the possible agenda and scope of the review of the conference for which they have primary responsibility.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "World Population Monitoring, 2000: population, environment and development" (E/CN.9/2001/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/2001/3)

4. General debate on national experience in population matters: population, environment and development

The Commission has concluded that it would be useful to make provision in its agenda for a general debate on population matters relating to the topic of the

[2] Ibid., sect. III.

[3] Report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields (E/2000/57).

Commission's focus, during which views and national experiences could be exchanged.

5. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population

At its twenty-eighth session, the Commission requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to continue to give high priority to the monitoring of population trends and policies; undertake biennial preparation of estimates and projections of global, national, urban, rural and city populations; conduct studies on population and related development policies; prepare studies on interactions of population change; carry out analyses of mortality; contribute to and coordinate in-depth studies on fertility and nuptiality and reproductive rights and health, including family planning; undertake studies to improve the understanding of the causes and consequences of internal migration and international migration; increase public awareness of and information exchange on population and development issues; make the necessary arrangements for coordinating the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action; and provide technical cooperation support to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and, on a temporary basis, to countries with economies in transition, in the light of the economic and social problems that those countries face at present. The Commission reaffirmed the work programme at its twenty-ninth session (Commission resolution 1996/1).

At its thirtieth session, the Commission stressed the importance of continuing the basic work of the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat on the crucial underpinnings of population estimates and projections; basic population trends and issues, including fertility, mortality, migration and patterns of rural and urban population change; the evolution of population policies; and understanding of the links between population and development (Commission resolution 1997/3).

The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1996/2, proposed that, in addition to their special coverage in the *World Population Monitoring* reports, main demographic trends be covered biennially starting in 1997, in a complementary concise report prepared by the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat, to be discussed under the agenda item concerning the work programme of the Population Division.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/2001/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the fields of population in 2000: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2001/5)

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of work in population for the biennium 2002-2003: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2001/6)

Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/2001/CRP.2)

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-fifth session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission and their urgency and relevance in the light of the current situation.

The attention of the Commission is drawn to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1979/41 and 1981/83 on the control and limitation of documentation. In addition, the Commission is reminded that the Council, in paragraph 1 (j) of resolution 1982/50 on the revitalization of the Council, urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies, and urged them to implement fully the decisions of the Council and of the Assembly on the control and limitation of documentation.

The attention of the Commission is also drawn to paragraph 4 of the annex to Council resolution 1982/50, in which the Secretary-General recommended that: (a) the documentation and programme of work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council and the Assembly should be streamlined in order to enable the subsidiary bodies to perform effectively the functions entrusted to them; (b) the Council and the Assembly should continue to review the provisional agendas of their subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency in the overall requests for documentation and its orderly consideration at the intergovernmental level, taking fully into account the medium-term plan and the programme budget; and (c) in doing so, the Council and the Assembly should also take into account the need to consolidate the items and documentation of their subsidiary machinery.

Furthermore, in its resolution 1981/83, the Council instructed its subsidiary bodies to take urgent measures to streamline their agendas and programmes of work and to bring about a substantial reduction in their requests for documents, bearing in mind the duration and cycles of their meetings, and to report to the Council on measures adopted, taking strictly into account the guidelines set forth in the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the Council and the Assembly.

In decision 1983/163, the Council requested the Secretary-General: (a) to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources; and (b) to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission (E/CN.9/2001/L.2)

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-fourth session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure, the Commission shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a report on the work of each session.